



Vicinity Centres Trust

Financial Report for the year ended
30 June 2023

Vicinity Centres Trust
ARSN 104 931 928 comprising
Vicinity Centres Trust and its Controlled Entities

Responsible Entity of Vicinity Centres Trust
Vicinity Centres RE Ltd
ABN 88 149 781 322



Contents

Directors' Report	3
Auditor's Independence Declaration.....	9
Statement of Comprehensive Income	10
Balance Sheet	11
Statement of Changes in Equity	12
Cash Flow Statement	13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14
About This Report.....	15
Operations.....	16
1. Segment information	16
2. Revenue and income	16
3. Taxes	17
4. Investment properties.....	18
5. Equity accounted investments.....	26
6. Earnings per security	28
Capital structure and financial risk management	29
7. Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives.....	29
8. Capital and financial risk management.....	32
9. Contributed equity	37
10. Distributions.....	37
Working capital.....	38
11. Trade receivables and other assets.....	38
12. Payables and other financial liabilities	40
13. Provisions.....	40
Other disclosures	41
14. Remuneration of the Responsible Entity and Employees.....	41
15. Leases.....	41
16. Operating cash flow reconciliation	43
17. Auditor's remuneration.....	44
18. Parent entity financial information	45
19. Related parties	46
20. Commitments and contingencies	47
21. Other Group accounting matters.....	47
22. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period.....	48
Directors' Declaration	49
Independent Auditor's Report	50

Directors' Report

The Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd, the responsible entity (RE) of Vicinity Centres Trust (the Trust or VCT), present the financial report of Vicinity Centres Trust and its controlled entities (VCT Group or the Trust Group) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The Trust is stapled to Vicinity Limited to form the stapled Group, Vicinity Centres (the Vicinity Centres Group), which is traded collectively on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) under the code 'VCX'. Accordingly, the financial report for Vicinity Centres Trust should be read in conjunction with the financial report of the Vicinity Centres Group available at vicinity.com.au.

Responsible Entity

The responsible entity (RE) of the Trust is Vicinity Centres RE Ltd. The registered office and principal place of business of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd is Level 4, Chadstone Tower One, 1341 Dandenong Road, Chadstone, Victoria 3148.

Directors

The following persons were members of the Vicinity Centres RE Ltd Board from 1 July 2022 and up to the date of this report unless otherwise stated:

(i) Chairman

Trevor Gerber (Independent)

(ii) Non-executive Directors ¹

Clive Appleton

David Thurin AM (retired 15 November 2022)

Dion Werbeloff (appointed 16 November 2022)

Georgina Lynch (Independent) (appointed 16 November 2022)

Janette Kendall (Independent)

Karen Penrose (Independent) (retired 15 September 2022)

Michael Hawker AM (Independent) (appointed 16 November 2022)

Peter Kahan (Independent)

Tiffany Fuller (Independent) (appointed 16 November 2022)

Tim Hammon (Independent)

(iii) Executive Director

Peter Huddle (CEO and Managing Director) (appointed 1 February 2023)

Grant Kelley (CEO and Managing Director) (left 16 November 2022)

Refer to Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 financial statements available at vicinity.com.au for further information on the background and experience of the Directors.

Company Secretaries

Carolyn Reynolds

Rohan Abeyewardene

Refer to Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 financial statements available at vicinity.com.au for further information on the background and experience of the Company Secretaries.

¹ The changes during the year are in line with the Vicinity Board's commitment to the orderly renewal and ongoing review of the composition of skills and experience of the Vicinity Board as announced to the ASX on 5 September and 3 October 2022.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Trust Group during the year continued to be investment in a portfolio of retail investment properties. The principal place of business of the Trust and the RE of the Trust is Level 4, Chadstone Tower One, 1341 Dandenong Road, Chadstone, Victoria 3148.

Review of results and operations

The detailed review of the results and operations for the Vicinity Centres Group is contained in the Directors' Report in the Vicinity Centres Group annual financial report which is available at vicinity.com.au. The following sections relate to the results and operations of the Trust Group only and therefore do not include items and amounts relating to Vicinity Limited.

(a) Financial performance

The statutory net profit after tax of the Trust Group for the year ended 30 June 2023 was \$252.3 million, a decrease of \$928.8 million on the prior year (30 June 2022: net profit after tax of \$1,181.1 million). This result mainly driven by:

- Net profits¹ contributed from investment properties of \$796.6 million (30 June 2022: \$705.0 million);
- A revaluation decrement on directly owned properties of \$197.7 million (30 June 2022: increment of \$628.0 million);
- Share of net loss from equity accounted investments of \$50.5 million (30 June 2022: share of net profit of \$16.6 million), driven by net revaluation decrement recorded on investment properties held within joint ventures;
- Borrowing costs of \$202.5 million (30 June 2022: \$185.2 million);
- Net mark-to-market gain on derivatives of \$66.4 million (30 June 2022: gain of \$88.6 million); and
- Net foreign exchange loss on interest bearing liabilities of \$139.9 million (30 June 2022: loss of \$10.3 million).

Cash flows from operating activities for the year were \$679.4 million (30 June 2022: \$567.3 million).

(b) Financial position

At 30 June 2023, the Trust Group's net assets were \$10,711.9 million, which decreased by \$269.0 million from \$10,980.9 million at 30 June 2022. This decrease was largely due to the aforementioned property revaluation decrement on directly owned investment properties.

(c) Capital management

During the year, the following financing activities have occurred:

- Net drawdowns of \$220.0 million of bank debt were made throughout the period to fund capital expenditure, offset by excess cash flows from operations.
- \$40.0 million of US Private Placement Notes matured and repaid in July 2022.
- Interest rate swap with notional value of \$330.0 million was closed out in February 2023.

¹ Property ownership revenue and income less direct property expenses and allowance for expected credit losses.

Significant matters

The Directors are not aware of any matter or circumstance not otherwise dealt with in the Directors' Report or the financial statements that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Trust Group, the results of those operations, or the state of the Trust Group's affairs in future financial years.

Distributions

Total distributions declared by the Trust Group during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

	Total \$m	Cents per unit
Interim, for the six-month period ended 31 December 2022	261.8	5.75
Final, for the six-month period ended 30 June 2023	284.5	6.25
Total distributions, for the year ended 30 June 2023	546.3	12.00

An interim distribution of 5.75 cents per unit, which equates to \$261.8 million, was paid on 7 March 2023.

On 16 August 2023, the Directors declared a distribution in respect of the Trust Group's earnings for the six-month ended 30 June 2023 of 6.25 cents per unit, which equates to total final distribution of \$284.5 million. The final distribution will be paid on 11 September 2023.

Director-related information

Meetings of Directors of the RE held during the year ¹

	Board		Audit Committee		Remuneration and Human Resources Committee		Risk, Compliance and ESG Committee ²		Nominations Committee	
	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended	Eligible	Attended
Current Directors										
Trevor Gerber ³	14	14	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1
Clive Appleton	14	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tiffany Fuller ^{4,5}	6	6	4	4	-	-	1	1	-	-
Tim Hammon	14	13	-	-	5	5	4	4	1	1
Michael Hawker AM ^{4,6}	6	6	4	4	4	4	-	-	-	-
Peter Huddle ⁷	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peter Kahan	14	14	5	5	5	5	-	-	1	1
Janette Kendall	14	14	-	-	5	5	4	4	-	-
Georgina Lynch ^{4,8}	6	5	4	4	-	-	3	3	-	-
Dion Werbeloff ^{4,9}	6	6	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Former Directors										
Grant Kelley ¹⁰	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Karen Penrose ¹¹	3	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
David Thurin AM ¹²	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹ All Directors have a standing invitation to attend Committee meetings and regularly attend meetings of Committees of which they are not members. Such attendance is not reflected in the above table.

² Formerly the Risk and Compliance Committee.

³ Trevor Gerber ceased as a member of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration and Human Resources Committee with effect from 16 November 2022.

⁴ Tiffany Fuller, Michael Hawker AM, Georgina Lynch and Dion Werbeloff were elected to the Board at the 2022 AGM on 16 November 2022.

⁵ Tiffany Fuller was appointed as Chairman of the Audit Committee with effect from 16 November 2022 and a member of the Risk, Compliance and ESG Committee with effect from 1 May 2023.

⁶ Michael Hawker AM was appointed as a member of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration and Human Resources Committee with effect from 16 November 2022.

⁷ Peter Huddle was appointed as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director with effect from 1 February 2023.

⁸ Georgina Lynch was appointed as a member of the Audit Committee and the Risk, Compliance and ESG Committee with effect from 16 November 2022.

⁹ Dion Werbeloff was appointed as a member of the Risk, Compliance and ESG Committee with effect from 16 November 2022.

¹⁰ Grant Kelley left the Board with effect from the conclusion of the 2022 AGM on 16 November 2022.

¹¹ Karen Penrose retired from the Board with effect from 15 September 2022.

¹² David Thurin AM retired from the Board with effect from 15 November 2022.

Director-related information (continued)

Remuneration and unitholdings of Directors

The Directors of the RE receive remuneration in their capacity as Directors of the RE. These amounts are paid directly by Vicinity Limited, the parent entity of the Vicinity Centres Group. The Trust pays the RE a fee to cover the management of the Trust Group, as disclosed in Note 14 to these financial statements. Amounts paid to and details of stapled securities held by Directors (and Key Management Personnel), can be found in the Remuneration Report within the Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 Annual Report available at vicinity.com.au.

Indemnification and insurance of Directors and Officers

The RE must indemnify the Directors, on a full indemnity basis and to the full extent permitted by law, against all losses or liabilities incurred by the Directors as officers of the Company or of a related body corporate provided that the loss or liability does not arise out of misconduct, including lack of good faith.

During the financial year, the RE insured its Directors, Secretaries and Officers against liability to third parties and for costs incurred in defending any civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against them in their capacity as Directors, Secretaries or Officers of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd. This excludes a liability that arises out of wilful breach of duty or improper use of inside information. The policy also insures the RE for any indemnity payments it may make to its Officers in respect of costs and liabilities incurred. Disclosure of the premium payable is prohibited under the conditions of the policy.

Directors' information

Information on the qualifications, experience and responsibilities of Directors are presented in the Directors' Report in the Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 Annual Report available at vicinity.com.au.

Auditor-related information

Ernst & Young (EY) is the auditor of the Trust Group and is located at 8 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000.

Indemnification of the auditor

To the extent permitted by law, the RE has agreed to indemnify EY, as part of the terms of its audit engagement agreement, against claims by third parties arising from the audit (for an unspecified amount). The indemnity does not apply to any loss arising out of any breach of the audit engagement agreement or from EY's negligent, wrongful or wilful acts or omissions. No payment has been made under this indemnity to EY during or since the end of the financial year.

Non-audit services

The Vicinity Centres Group may decide to employ the auditor on assignments additional to statutory audit duties where the auditor's expertise and experience with the Vicinity Centres Group is essential and will not compromise auditor independence.

Details of the amounts paid or payable to EY for statutory audit, assurance and non-audit services provided to the Vicinity Centres Group during the year are set out in Note 17 to the financial statements.

The Board of the RE has considered the non-audit services provided during the year and is satisfied these services are compatible with the general standard of independence for auditors imposed by the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) for the following reasons:

- The non-audit services and the ratio of non-audit to audit services provided by EY are reviewed by the Audit Committee in accordance with the External Audit Policy to ensure that, in the Audit Committee's opinion, they do not impact the impartiality and objectivity of the auditor; and
- None of the services undermine the general principles relating to auditor independence as set out in APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* as they did not involve reviewing or auditing the auditor's own work, acting in a management or decision-making capacity for the Vicinity Centres Group, acting as an advocate for the Vicinity Centres Group or jointly sharing economic risks and rewards.

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) is included immediately following the Directors' Report.

Environmental regulation

The Vicinity Centres Group is subject to the reporting obligations under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) Act 2007* (Cth). This requires the Vicinity Centres Group to report annual greenhouse gas emissions, energy use and production for all assets under management for years ending 30 June. The Vicinity Centres Group met this obligation by submitting its NGER report to the Department of the Environment and Energy for the year ended 30 June 2022 by 31 October 2022. The 2023 NGER report will be submitted by the 31 October 2023 submission date.

Options over unissued securities

There were 8,641,473 unissued ordinary securities of the Vicinity Centres Group under option in the form of performance and restricted rights as at 30 June 2023 and at the date of this report. Refer to Remuneration Report on the Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 Annual Report available at vicinity.com.au for further details.

Option holders do not have any rights, by virtue of the option, to participate in any security issue of the Vicinity Centres Group.

Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

Capital management activities

Subsequent to 30 June 2023, the following transactions were completed:

- \$200.0 million of new and extended bank debt facility with FY27 maturity;
- Repaid \$123.0 million of drawn bank debt following the sale of 50% interest in Broadmeadows Central; and
- Cancelled \$300.0 million of bank debt facilities.

Other than the matters described above, no other matters have arisen since the end of the reporting period which have significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Trust Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Trust Group in future financial periods.

Rounding of amounts

The Trust Group is an entity of a kind referred to in Legislative Instrument 2016/191, issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to the “rounding off” of amounts in the Directors’ Report. Accordingly, amounts in the Directors’ Report have been rounded off to the nearest tenth of a million dollars (\$m) in accordance with that Legislative Instrument, unless stated otherwise.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Directors.



Trevor Gerber
Chairman
16 August 2023



**Building a better
working world**

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Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd, The Responsible Entity (RE) of Vicinity Centres Trust (the Trust or VCT)

As lead auditor for the audit of the financial report of Vicinity Centres Trust for the financial year ended 30 June 2023, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit;
- b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit; and
- c) No non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Vicinity Centres Trust and the entities it controlled during the financial year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ernst + Young'.

Ernst & Young

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alison Parker'.

Alison Parker
Partner
16 August 2023

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Revenue and income			
Property ownership revenue and income		1,168.6	1,088.2
Interest and other income		34.2	18.4
Total revenue and income	2(b)	1,202.8	1,106.6
Share of net (loss)/profit of equity accounted investments	5(b)	(50.5)	16.6
Property revaluation (decrement)/increment for directly owned properties	4(b)	(197.7)	628.0
Direct property expenses		(393.5)	(370.6)
Allowance for expected credit losses	11(b)	21.5	(12.6)
Borrowing costs	7(c)	(202.5)	(185.2)
Responsible entity fees	14	(52.0)	(51.1)
Net foreign exchange movement on interest bearing liabilities		(139.9)	(10.3)
Net mark-to-market movement on derivatives		66.4	88.6
Stamp duty written off on acquisition of investment property	4(b)	-	(21.9)
Other expenses		(2.3)	(7.0)
Net profit before tax for the year		252.3	1,181.1
Income tax expense	3	-	-
Net income for the year		252.3	1,181.1
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		252.3	1,181.1
Earnings per unit attributable to unitholders of the Trust Group:			
Basic earnings per unit (cents)	6	5.54	25.94
Diluted earnings per unit (cents)	6	5.53	25.89

The above consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Balance Sheet

as at 30 June 2023

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		182.0	43.4
Trade receivables and other assets	11(a)	124.8	107.9
Derivative financial instruments	7(e)	39.1	9.5
Total current assets		345.9	160.8
Non-current assets			
Investment properties	4(a)	14,055.7	14,133.2
Equity accounted investments	5(a)	436.5	503.9
Derivative financial instruments	7(e)	227.6	219.6
Other assets	11(a)	500.2	530.5
Total non-current assets		15,220.0	15,387.2
Total assets		15,565.9	15,548.0
Current liabilities			
Interest bearing liabilities	7(a)	323.0	40.0
Payables and other financial liabilities	12	204.0	203.0
Lease liabilities	15(a)	1.2	1.1
Provisions	13	17.7	21.0
Derivative financial instruments	7(e)	59.3	22.9
Total current liabilities		605.2	288.0
Non-current liabilities			
Interest bearing liabilities	7(a)	3,750.5	3,712.5
Lease liabilities	15(a)	349.4	345.6
Derivative financial instruments	7(e)	148.9	221.0
Total non-current liabilities		4,248.8	4,279.1
Total liabilities		4,854.0	4,567.1
Net assets		10,711.9	10,980.9
Equity			
Contributed equity	9	8,560.8	8,560.8
Retained profits		2,151.1	2,420.1
Total equity		10,711.9	10,980.9

The above consolidated Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Attributable to unitholders of the Trust		Total \$m
		Contributed equity \$m	Retained profits \$m	
As at 1 July 2021		8,560.8	1,452.9	10,013.7
Net profit for the year		-	1,181.1	1,181.1
Total comprehensive loss for the year		-	1,181.1	1,181.1
Transactions with unitholders in their capacity as unitholders:				
Distributions declared		-	(213.9)	(213.9)
Total equity as at 30 June 2022		8,560.8	2,420.1	10,980.9
As at 1 July 2022		8,560.8	2,420.1	10,980.9
Net profit for the year		-	252.3	252.3
Total comprehensive income for the year		8,560.8	252.3	252.3
Transactions with unitholders in their capacity as unitholders:				
Distributions declared	10(b)	-	(521.3)	(521.3)
Total equity as at 30 June 2023		8,560.8	2,151.1	10,711.9

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts in the course of operations		1,413.0	1,238.1
Payments in the course of operations		(577.9)	(524.5)
Distributions and dividends received from equity accounted entities		9.2	14.1
Interest and other revenue received		26.3	15.0
Interest paid		(191.2)	(175.4)
Net cash inflows from operating activities	16	679.4	567.3
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for capital expenditure on investment properties		(353.3)	(263.7)
Proceeds from disposal of investment properties	4(b)	134.5	251.9
Payments for acquisition of investment property	4(b)	-	(359.4)
Payments for acquisition of other investments		(3.0)	(3.5)
Stamp duty paid upon acquisition of investment property	4(b)	-	(21.9)
Proceeds from disposal of other investments		-	7.0
Net cash outflows from investing activities		(221.8)	(389.6)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from borrowings		840.0	1,367.0
Repayment of borrowings		(660.0)	(910.0)
Distributions paid to external unitholders	10(b)	(521.3)	(514.3)
Proceeds received from Vicinity Limited		208.8	136.3
Funds advanced to Vicinity Limited		(176.1)	(247.9)
Termination of interest rate swaps		(6.9)	-
Debt establishment costs paid		(3.5)	(1.6)
Net cash outflows from financing activities		(319.0)	(170.5)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held		138.6	7.2
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		43.4	36.2
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		182.0	43.4

The above Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The index of notes to the financial statements is shown below. Similar notes have been grouped into sections with relevant accounting policies and judgements and estimates disclosures incorporated within the notes to which they relate. The 'About this Report' section which precedes the notes to the financial statements contains information on the basis of preparation of the financial report, adoption of new accounting standards and significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions.

Operations

- 1 Segment information
- 2 Revenue and income
- 3 Taxes
- 4 Investment properties
- 5 Equity accounted investments
- 6 Earnings per unit

Capital structure and financial risk management

- 7 Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives
- 8 Capital and financial risk management
- 9 Contributed equity
- 10 Distributions

Working capital

- 11 Trade receivables and other assets
- 12 Payables and other financial liabilities
- 13 Provisions

Other disclosures

- 14 Remuneration of the Responsible Entity and Employees
- 15 Leases
- 16 Operating cash flow reconciliation
- 17 Auditor's remuneration
- 18 Parent entity financial information
- 19 Related parties
- 20 Commitments and contingencies
- 21 Other accounting matters
- 22 Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

About This Report

Reporting entity

The financial statements are those of the consolidated entity consisting of Vicinity Centres Trust (the Trust) and its controlled entities (collectively the Trust Group). The Trust is a for-profit entity that is domiciled and operates wholly in Australia.

The Trust is stapled to Vicinity Limited (the Company) to form the stapled group Vicinity Centres (the Vicinity Centres Group). Accordingly, the financial report for Vicinity Centres Trust should be read in conjunction with the Vicinity Centres 30 June 2023 Annual Report available at vicinity.com.au.

Basis of preparation

This general purpose Financial Report:

- Has been prepared in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and Australian Accounting Standards (AASBs) issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board. Compliance with AASBs ensures compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB);
- Is presented in Australian dollars (\$) and rounded to the nearest tenth of a million dollars (\$m) in accordance with ASIC Legislative Instrument 2016/191 (unless otherwise stated);
- Has been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain financial assets and liabilities, and investment properties which have been recognised at fair value; and
- Was authorised for issue by the Board of Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd on 16 August 2023. The Directors of the Vicinity Centres RE Ltd have the power to amend and reissue the Financial Report.

The presentation of certain items has been adjusted as necessary to provide more meaningful information in the context of the Trust Group. Where the presentation or classification of items in the Financial Report is amended, comparative amounts are also reclassified unless it is impractical. The adjustments made to the presentation of items had no impact on the net assets or net profit/loss of the Trust Group.

Going concern

While the Trust Group has a net current deficiency of \$259.3 million (current liabilities exceed current assets) at reporting date, the Trust Group has available liquidity including undrawn facilities of \$1,222.0 million, cash and cash equivalents of \$182.0 million and generates sufficient operating cash flows to pay its debts as and when they fall due for a period of 12 months from the date of these financial statements. Accordingly, the Financial Report has been prepared on a going concern basis.

Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of financial statements requires the Trust Group to make judgements in the application of accounting policies and estimates when developing assumptions that affect the reported amounts of certain revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities. These judgements and estimates are made considering historical experience and other reasonable and relevant factors but are inherently uncertain. Due to this inherent uncertainty, actual results may differ from these judgements and estimates.

The table below summarises the areas of the Financial Report subject to significant judgement and estimation:

Area of judgement or estimation	Note
Recoverability of tenant debtors	11
Valuation of investment properties	4
Valuation of derivative financial instruments	7

Operations

1. Segment information

As described in the 'About This Report' section, the units in the Trust Group are stapled together with the shares of the Company and are traded jointly on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX), under the code 'VCX'.

As a result of this stapled structure, management does not report the individual results of the Trust Group to the Chief Operating Decision Makers (which for the Vicinity Centres Group were the CEO and Managing Director (CEO), Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The Vicinity Centres Group's former CEO left Vicinity on 16 November 2022. The COO was acting as the Vicinity Centres Group's CEO on 16 November 2022 and subsequently confirmed as the Vicinity Centres Group's CEO from 1 February 2023). The role of COO was not replaced.

Management reports segment results for the stapled Vicinity Centres Group. Consequently, the Trust Group is considered to have only one operating segment as represented in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Balance Sheet.

2. Revenue and income

(a) Accounting policies

Property ownership revenue and income

The Trust Group derives revenue and income in connection with the leasing and operation of its portfolio of investment properties. These comprise:

- **Lease rental income**

The Trust Group derives lease rental income as a lessor from leasing retail space within these investment properties. Lease rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term except for non-lease components, predominantly the recovery of certain operation and maintenance costs, which is measured and recognised as revenue from contracts with customers. Items included in the straight-lining calculation are fixed rental payments, in-substance fixed payments, lease incentives given to tenants and fixed rental increases that form part of lease agreements. Variable rental income is recognised as income in the period in which it is earned. Lease rental income due over the remaining lease term, which incorporates any future changes including waivers to fixed lease payments as compared to the original lease agreement, is accounted for as a lease modification and recognised on a straight-line basis over the remaining lease term.

- **Revenue from recovery of property outgoings**

Under certain tenant lease agreements, the Trust Group recovers from tenants a portion of costs incurred by the Trust Group in the operation and maintenance of its investment properties. The Trust Group, acting as principal, incurs these costs with third party suppliers and includes them within direct property expenses in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Recovery amounts are invoiced to tenants over time at the start of each month for the provision of that month's services based on an annual estimate. Accordingly, where recovery amounts are received in advance, no adjustment is made for the effects of a financing component. Adjustments to reflect recoveries based on actual costs incurred are recorded within revenue in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and billed annually.

- **Other property related revenue**

Other property related revenue includes fees earned from advertising, carparking and the on selling of other services at the Trust Group's shopping centres. The material components of this revenue are recognised over time as the relevant services are provided and relevant performance obligations satisfied.

2. Revenue and income (continued)

(b) Summary of revenue and income

A summary of the Trust Group's total revenue and income included within the Statement of Comprehensive Income is shown below.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Recovery of property outgoings ^{1,2}	167.3	189.0
Other property related revenue ¹	76.3	65.9
Total revenue from contracts with customers	243.6	254.9
Lease rental income ^{1,2,3}	925.0	833.3
Interest and other income	34.2	18.4
Total income	959.2	851.7
Total revenue and income	1,202.8	1,106.6

1. Included within 'Property ownership revenue and income' in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.
2. Recovery of property outgoings includes estimated recoveries of property outgoings of gross and semi-gross deals, accounted for as revenue from contracts with customers as the income is earned. The estimate is updated annually based on recoveries of property outgoings of net deals in the financial year.
3. Lease rental income includes percentage rent income of \$32.6 million (30 June 22: \$16.7 million).

3. Taxes

The Trust and its controlled trusts are not liable to pay income tax (including capital gains tax) on the basis that the taxable income from the Trust's property investments is taxed on a flow through basis in the hands of the Trust's unitholders in accordance with the Attribution Managed Investment Trust Regime. The Trust's unitholders pay tax at their marginal tax rates, in the case of Australian resident unitholders, or through the withholding rules that apply to non-resident unitholders investing in Managed Investment Trusts. As a result, the Trust has zero income tax expense recognised in respect of the Trust's profit.

Refer to Note 3 of the Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 financial statements available at vicinity.com.au for further details of taxes paid by the Vicinity Centres Group.

4. Investment properties

The Trust Group's investment properties represent freehold and leasehold interests in land and buildings held either to derive rental income or for capital appreciation, or both. They are initially measured at cost, including related transaction costs. Subsequently, at each reporting period, they are carried at their fair values based on the market value, being the price that would be received to sell an investment property in an orderly, arm's length transaction between market participants at the reporting date.

Fair values for investment properties are determined by independent (external) valuers or internal valuations. These valuations include the cost of capital works in progress on development projects.

(a) Portfolio summary

Shopping centre type	30-Jun-23			30-Jun-22		
	Number of properties	Value \$m	Weighted average cap rate, %	Number of properties	Value \$m	Weighted average cap rate, %
Super Regional	1	3,325.0	3.88	1	3,137.5	3.88
Major Regional	7	1,945.3	6.16	7	2,027.5	5.85
Central Business Districts (CBD)	7	1,965.7	5.14	7	2,000.5	4.94
Regional	8	1,588.7	6.59	8	1,776.8	6.14
Outlet Centre	8	2,337.5	5.71	8	2,264.5	5.54
Sub Regional	22	2,407.3	6.36	22	2,433.8	6.12
Neighbourhood	3	189.0	6.01	3	193.0	5.68
Planning and holding costs ¹	-	32.3	n/a	-	38.1	n/a
Less: Property holdings by Vicinity Limited ²	-	(85.6)	n/a	-	(85.2)	n/a
Total	56	13,705.2	5.47	56	13,786.5	5.30
Add: Investment property leaseholds ³		350.5			346.7	
Total investment properties		14,055.7			14,133.2	

1. Planning and holding costs relating to planned major development projects are capitalised and carried within the overall investment property balance. The status of each project is reviewed at each period end to determine if continued capitalisation of these costs remains appropriate.
2. Represents certain equipment which forms part of the individual fair values of the Trust Group's investment properties but is held by Vicinity Limited.
3. Refer to Note 15(a) for further details of investment property leasehold balances.

4. Investment properties (continued)

(b) Movements for the year

A reconciliation of the movements in investment properties is shown in the table below.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Opening balance at 1 July	13,786.5	12,855.0
Acquisitions including associated stamp duty and transaction costs ¹	-	381.1
Capital expenditure ²	346.9	286.8
Capitalised borrowing costs ³	3.4	1.5
Disposals including transaction costs ⁴	(148.4)	(258.3)
Property revaluation (decrement)/increment for directly owned properties ⁵	(200.6)	624.6
Stamp duty written off on acquisition of investment property	-	(21.9)
Amortisation of incentives and leasing costs ⁶	(85.7)	(78.6)
Straight-lining of rent adjustment ⁶	3.1	(3.7)
Closing balance at 30 June	13,705.2	13,786.5

1. Prior period comprises acquisitions of \$358.5 million and associated stamp duty and transaction costs of \$22.6 million.
2. Includes development and maintenance capital expenditure, lease incentives, fit-out, and other capital costs.
3. Borrowing costs incurred in the construction of qualifying assets have been capitalised at a weighted average rate of 4.5% (30 June 2022: 4.2%).
4. Current period disposals include the sale of 50% interest in Broadmeadows Central for \$134.5 million, partial disposal of vacant land at Castle Plaza for \$14.8 million and associated transaction costs. Prior period comprises sale of Box Hill Central North for \$127.8 million and 50% interest in Runaway Bay Centre for \$132.0 million and associated transaction costs.
5. The property revaluation decrement of \$200.6 million excluded the property revaluation increment of \$2.9 million (30 June 2022: increment of \$3.4 million) of investment property leaseholds held at fair value.
6. For lease arrangements where Vicinity is the lessor.

(c) Portfolio valuation

Significant Judgement and Estimate

The Trust Group's valuation process is governed by the Board and the internal management Investment and Capital Committee. The process is reviewed periodically to consider changes in regulatory and market conditions, and other requirements. The determination of an investment property valuation requires assumptions to be made which may not be based on observable market data in all instances (i.e. capitalisation rates) and estimating the future impact of events such as high inflation and interest rates, and regulatory changes. This means the valuation of an investment property requires significant judgement and estimation.

In the prior period, there were specific adjustments to the key valuation inputs of CBD assets due to lower foot traffic compared to pre-pandemic levels, protracted return of office workers, and reduced domestic and international travellers. These specific adjustments have been removed from the valuation inputs of CBD assets at 30 June 2023.

Valuation process

The valuation process requires:

- Each property to be independently valued at least once per year;
- Independent valuations prepared to assess the fair value of each of the Trust Group's investment properties are conducted in accordance with the guidelines and valuation principles as set by the Australian Property Institute (API) and the International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC). As part of the valuation process, the Trust Group has discussed the impact of environmental, social and governance factors with the independent valuers. In assessing the implications of sustainability in property valuations under the API and IVSC valuation standards, consideration is given to environmental factors that can or do impact on the valuation of an asset;
- Independent valuers (who are selected from a pre-approved panel) that are appropriately qualified. Qualified independent valuers must be authorised by law to carry out such valuations and have at least five years' valuation experience (including at least two years in Australia), and have been rotated across all properties at a minimum every three years. The pre-approved panel was last updated in the financial year ended 30 June 2022;

4. Investment properties (continued)

(c) Portfolio valuation (continued)

Valuation process (continued)

- Internal valuations to be undertaken at the end of the reporting period (half-year and year-end) if a property is not due for an independent valuation;
- Where an internal valuation shows a variance greater than 10% from the last independent valuation, a new independent valuation is undertaken (even if this results in a property being independently valued twice in one year); and
- Internal valuations to be reviewed by a director of an independent valuation firm to assess the assumptions adopted and the reasonableness of the outcomes.

As at 30 June 2023, 25 assets were independently valued (external) and 31 assets were valued internally (30 June 2022: 29 independent valuations and 27 internal valuations). Each property in the portfolio however has been independently valued at least once in the financial year, in-line with the Trust Group's valuation process.

Valuation methodology

To determine the fair value of investment properties as at 30 June 2023:

- Independent valuations commonly adopt a fair value within the range calculated with reference to the 'capitalisation of net income' and 'discounted cash flow' methods;
- Internal valuations utilise the latest available property financial information in the 'capitalisation of net income' method with a crosscheck using the 'discounted cash flow' method;
- Both independent and internal valuations employ the 'residual value' method when valuing properties under development; and
- Where the fair value for a site is unlikely to be determined by the current usage at the site (i.e. not based on the cashflows generated from the current usage such as retail), the valuer may employ a number of different methods to derive this valuation, including a direct comparison of land value approach or a project related site assessment valuation (based on the highest and best use for the site at any given time).

The table below details each valuation methodology:

Valuation method	Description
Capitalisation of net income	The fully leased annual net income of the property is capitalised in perpetuity from the valuation date, except for leasehold properties where in most instances, depending on the term remaining on the ground lease, the fully leased annual net income of the property is capitalised for the remaining ground lease term. Various adjustments are then made to the calculated result, including estimated future incentives, capital expenditure, vacancy allowances and reversions to market rent. The capitalisation rate reflects the nature, location and tenancy profile of the property together with current market investment criteria, as evidenced by current market transactions.
Discounted cash flow	<p>Projected cash flows for a selected investment period (usually 10 years) are derived from contracted or future estimates of market rents, operating costs, lease incentives and capital expenditure.</p> <p>The cash flows assume the property is sold at the end of the investment period (10 years) for a terminal value. This terminal value is calculated by capitalising in perpetuity assumed market rent income at the end of the investment period by an appropriate terminal yield, except for leasehold properties where the terminal value may be calculated by other methodology to account for the finite term remaining on the ground lease at that time.</p> <p>Fair value is determined to be the present value of these projected cash flows, which is calculated by applying a market-derived discount rate to the cash flows.</p>
Residual value (for properties under development)	The value of the asset on completion is calculated using the capitalisation of net income and discounted cash flow methods as described above, based on the forecast income profile at development completion. The estimated cost to complete the development, including construction costs and associated expenditures, finance costs, and an allowance for developer's risk and profit, and post development stabilisation is deducted from the value of the asset on completion to derive the current value.
Project related site assessment	Where the fair (and highest) value of the asset is unlikely to be derived from the cashflows of its current usage (e.g. retail), the valuation may have regard to a likely redevelopment of the site and the residual value a purchaser may pay for the site today given a market accepted profit margin (determined by the level of risk associated with developing the site).

4. Investment properties (continued)

(c) Portfolio valuation (continued)

Key assumptions and inputs

As the capitalisation of income and discounted cash flow (DCF) valuation methods include key inputs that are not based on observable market data (namely derived capitalisation and discount rates), investment property valuations are considered "Level 3" on the fair value hierarchy (refer to Note 24 for further details on the fair value hierarchy).

Key unobservable inputs used by the Trust Group in determining the fair value of its investment properties are summarised below.

Unobservable inputs	30-Jun-23		30-Jun-22		Sensitivity
	Range of inputs	Weighted average inputs	Range of inputs	Weighted average inputs	
Capitalisation rate ¹	3.88% – 8.50%	5.47%	3.88% – 8.00%	5.30%	The higher the capitalisation rate, discount rate, terminal yield, and expected downtime due to tenants vacating, the lower the fair value.
Discount rate ²	6.25% – 8.75%	6.78%	6.00% – 8.50%	6.49%	
Terminal yield ³	4.13% – 8.00%	5.67%	4.13% – 7.75%	5.51%	
Expected downtime (for tenants vacating)	4 to 15 months	7 months	3 to 13 months	8 months	
Market rental growth rate	2.00% – 3.69%	3.03%	1.94% – 3.40%	2.95%	The higher the assumed market rental growth rate, the higher the fair value.

1. The capitalisation rate is the required annual yield of net market income used to determine the value of the property. The rate is determined with regards to comparable market transactions.
2. The discount rate is a required annual total rate of return used to convert the forecast cash flow of an asset into present value terms. It should reflect the required rate of return of the property given its risk profile relative to competing uses of capital. The rate is determined with regards to comparable market transactions.
3. The terminal yield is the capitalisation rate used to convert forecast annual income into a forecast asset value at the end of the holding period when carrying out a DCF calculation. The rate is determined with regards to comparable market transactions and the expected risk inherent in the cash flows at the end of the cash flow period. Leasehold properties with tenure less than 20 years (at the end of the 10-year investment horizon) have been excluded from this sensitivity for comparative reasons given the terminal value calculation can differ to take into account the finite term remaining on the leasehold at that time.

All of the above key assumptions have been taken from the 30 June 2023 external valuation reports and internal valuation assessments (where applicable). For all investment properties, the current use is considered the highest and best use.

The key inputs and assumptions at 30 June 2022 also incorporated specific unobservable adjustments relating to COVID-19. These adjustments reduced investment property fair values and included (where appropriate):

- Allowances for rental waivers and tenant support ranging from nil to 5 months on average at each property to be provided to tenants impacted by past lockdowns instigated by state governments as a response to the COVID-19 outbreaks;
- Additional capital, downtime and stabilisation allowances for the replacement of existing tenants that do not renew lease agreements or for tenants that are expected to take longer to recover;
- Lower short to medium-term market rent growth rates for CBD properties due to anticipated prolonged recovery period; and
- Higher than historical average allowance for tenant incentives to lease space at assets over the short to medium-term.

4. Investment properties (continued)

(c) Portfolio valuation (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

The following sensitivities illustrate the impact of changes in key unobservable inputs (in isolation) on the fair value of the Trust Group's investment properties as at 30 June 2023. Specific key unobservable inputs may impact only the capitalisation of net income method, the DCF method or both methods.

DCF method

30-Jun-23		Discount rate	Discount rate	10-year rental growth rate	10-year rental growth rate
\$m	Carrying value	-0.25%	+0.25%	-0.25%	+0.25%
Actual valuation ¹	13,758.5				
Impact on actual valuation		+263.6	(257.0)	(190.9)	+193.9
Resulting valuation		14,022.1	13,501.5	13,567.6	13,952.4

Capitalisation of net income method

30-Jun-23		Capitalisation rate	Capitalisation rate
\$m	Carrying value	-0.25%	+0.25%
Actual valuation ¹	13,758.5		
Impact on actual valuation		+703.9	(636.3)
Resulting valuation		14,462.4	13,122.2

1. Excludes planning and holding costs and investment property leaseholds and includes property holdings by Vicinity Limited.

4. Investment properties (continued)

(d) List of investment properties held

The tables below summarise the carrying value for each investment property.

i. Super Regional

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Chadstone	50	Independent	3,325.0	3,137.5
Total Super Regional			3,325.0	3,137.5

ii. Major Regional

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Bankstown Central	50	Internal	267.5	260.0
Bayside	100	Internal	430.0	435.0
Galleria	50	Internal	205.0	225.0
Mandurah Forum	50	Internal	200.0	217.5
Northland	50	Independent	405.0	402.5
Roselands	50	Internal	147.5	167.5
The Glen	50	Independent	290.3	320.0
Total Major Regional			1,945.3	2,027.5

iii. Central Business Districts

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Emporium Melbourne	50	Internal	522.5	522.5
Myer Bourke Street	33	Internal	131.7	135.0
Queen Victoria Building ¹	50	Independent	272.5	279.0
QueensPlaza	100	Internal	700.0	695.0
The Galleries	50	Independent	153.5	153.0
The Myer Centre Brisbane ²	25	Independent	80.0	105.0
The Strand Arcade	50	Independent	105.5	111.0
Total Central Business Districts			1,965.7	2,000.5

1. The title to this property is leasehold and expires in 2083.

2. Renamed to Uptown on 1 August 2023.

4. Investment properties (continued)

(d) List of investment properties held (continued)

iv. Regional

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Broadmeadows Central ¹	50	Independent	157.2	283.5
Colonnades	50	Internal	136.0	138.3
Cranbourne Park	50	Independent	137.5	147.5
Eastlands	100	Internal	180.0	178.0
Elizabeth City Centre	100	Internal	325.0	322.0
Ellenbrook Central	100	Internal	252.0	270.0
Grand Plaza	50	Internal	201.0	215.0
Rockingham Centre	50	Independent	200.0	222.5
Total Regional			1,588.7	1,776.8

1. Disposed of 50% interest in the shopping centre during the year.

v. Outlet Centre

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
DFO Brisbane ¹	100	Independent	75.0	72.0
DFO Essendon ²	100	Internal	185.0	176.0
DFO Homebush	100	Internal	690.0	675.0
DFO Moorabbin ³	100	Independent	100.0	102.0
DFO Perth ⁴	50	Internal	127.5	122.0
DFO South Wharf ⁵	100	Independent	710.0	665.0
DFO Uni Hill	50	Internal	85.0	75.0
Harbour Town Premium Outlets Gold Coast	50	Internal	365.0	377.5
Total Outlet Centre			2,337.5	2,264.5

1. The right to operate the DFO Brisbane business expires in 2046.

2. The title to this property is leasehold and expires in 2048.

3. The title to this property is leasehold with an option to extend the ground lease to 2034 at the Trust Group's discretion.

4. The title to this property is leasehold and expires in 2047.

5. The title to this property is leasehold and expires in 2108.

4. Investment properties (continued)

(d) List of investment properties held (continued)

vi. Sub Regional

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Altona Gate Shopping Centre	100	Internal	109.0	112.0
Armidale Central	100	Independent	49.0	36.6
Box Hill Central South ¹	100	Internal	276.0	248.0
Buranda Village	100	Independent	42.5	42.5
Carlingford Court	50	Internal	106.3	111.2
Castle Plaza ²	100	Internal	145.3	168.7
Gympie Central	100	Internal	80.0	80.0
Halls Head Central	50	Independent	36.0	41.8
Karratha City	50	Independent	50.0	51.2
Kurralta Central	100	Independent	56.7	55.8
Lake Haven Centre	100	Internal	287.0	300.0
Livingston Marketplace	100	Independent	85.5	88.0
Maddington Central	100	Internal	97.0	101.0
Mornington Central	50	Internal	46.0	47.0
Nepean Village	100	Internal	206.0	206.0
Northgate	100	Independent	105.0	97.0
Roxburgh Village	100	Internal	113.0	106.0
Sunshine Marketplace	50	Independent	66.0	65.5
Taigum Square	100	Internal	98.0	96.0
Warriewood Square	50	Independent	131.0	140.5
Warwick Grove	100	Internal	160.0	173.0
Whitsunday Plaza	100	Internal	62.0	66.0
Total Sub Regional			2,407.3	2,433.8

1. The title to this property is leasehold with options to extend the ground lease to 2134 at the Trust Group's discretion.

2. Partial disposal of vacant land of \$14.8 million during the year.

vii. Neighbourhood

	Ownership interest %	Valuation type 30-Jun-23	Carrying value	
			30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Dianella Plaza	100	Independent	72.0	76.0
Oakleigh Central	100	Independent	92.0	90.0
Victoria Park Central	100	Independent	25.0	27.0
Total Neighbourhood			189.0	193.0

4. Investment properties (continued)

(e) Future undiscounted lease payments to be received from operating leases

The Trust Group's investment properties are leased to tenants under operating leases with rentals payable monthly. Future minimum undiscounted fixed lease payments to be received for the non-cancellable period of operating leases of investment properties are shown in the table below. These include amounts to be received for recovery of property outgoings for tenants on gross leases which will be accounted for as revenue from contracts with customers when earned¹. Rentals which may be received when tenant sales exceed set thresholds and separately invoiced amounts for recovery of property outgoings are excluded¹.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Not later than one year	896.1	857.2
Two years	749.6	721.8
Three years	625.5	566.8
Four years	506.1	452.9
Five years	372.9	336.5
Later than five years	805.5	841.4
Total undiscounted lease payments to be received from operating leases	3,955.7	3,776.6

1. Refer to Note 2 for the proportion of revenue earned relating to the recovery of property outgoings.

5. Equity accounted investments

Equity accounted investments primarily consists of investment property joint ventures with strategic partners where the property ownership interest is held through a jointly owned trust rather than direct ownership into the property title. The Trust Group has contractual arrangements that establish joint control over the economic activities of these trusts, based on standard market terms.

These investments are accounted for using the equity method.

(a) Summary of equity accounted investments

	Ownership		Carrying value	
	30-Jun-23 %	30-Jun-22 %	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Chatswood Chase Sydney (Joint Venture) ^{1,2,3}	51	51	342.8	416.4
Victoria Gardens Retail Trust (Joint Venture) ^{2,3}	50	50	93.7	87.5
Closing balance			436.5	503.9

- Investment in joint venture held through CC Commercial Trust. The Trust Group and its joint venture partner each have equal voting rights over the relevant activities of the joint venture.
- The assets of investment property joint ventures substantially consist of investment properties held at fair value. As such the value of equity accounted investments recognised by the Trust Group is subject to the same significant judgement and estimate as disclosed in Note 4(c).
- The decrease in the carrying value of the Trust Group's equity accounted investments during the period was primarily driven by property revaluation decrements in Chatswood Chase Sydney recorded on the underlying investment properties held.

5. Equity accounted investments (continued)

(b) Movements for the year

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Opening balance		503.9	479.3
Additional investments made during the year		3.0	30.3
Share of net (loss)/gain of equity accounted investments		(50.5)	16.6
Distributions of net income declared by equity accounted investments		(19.9)	(22.3)
Closing balance	5(a)	436.5	503.9

(c) Summarised financial information of joint ventures

Chatswood Chase Sydney

Summarised financial information represents 51% of the underlying financial information of the Chatswood Chase Sydney joint venture.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Investment property (non-current)	353.5	417.5
Other net working capital balances	(10.7)	(1.1)
Net assets	342.8	416.4
Total revenue and income	23.5	24.4
Aggregate net loss after income tax	(57.1)	(0.3)

Victoria Gardens Retail Trust

Summarised financial information represents 50% of the underlying financial information of the Victoria Gardens Retail Trust joint venture.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Investment property (non-current)	165.0	158.6
Interest bearing liability (non-current)	(68.6)	(68.2)
Other net working capital balances	(2.7)	(2.9)
Net assets	93.7	87.5
Total revenue and income	10.4	9.8
Interest expense	(2.7)	(2.4)
Aggregate net profit after income tax	6.5	16.9

(d) Related party transactions with equity accounted investments during the year

Chatswood Chase Sydney

At 30 June 2023, no amounts remain payable to the Trust Group (30 June 2022: \$nil). Distribution income from the Trust Group's investment in Chatswood Chase Sydney was \$16,583,000 (30 June 2022: \$18,256,000) with \$8,749,000 remaining receivable at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: \$339,000).

Victoria Gardens Retail Trust

30 June 2023, no amounts remain payable to the Trust Group (30 June 2022: \$nil). Distribution income from the Trust Group's investment in Victoria Gardens Retail Trust was \$3,310,000 (30 June 2022: \$3,999,000) with \$5,488,000 remaining receivable at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: \$6,178,000).

6. Earnings per unit

The basic and diluted earnings per unit for the Trust Group are calculated below in accordance with the requirements of AASB 133 *Earnings per Share*.

Basic earnings per unit is determined by dividing the net profit or loss after income tax by the weighted average number of units outstanding during the year.

Diluted earnings per unit adjusts the weighted average number of units outstanding by the weighted average number of additional units that would have been outstanding assuming the conversion of all dilutive potential units.

Basic and diluted earnings per unit are as follows:

	30-Jun-23	30-Jun-22
Earnings per unit attributable to unitholders of the Trust Group		
Basic earnings per unit (cents)	5.54	25.94
Diluted earnings per unit (cents)	5.53	25.89

The following net profit after income tax amounts are used as the numerator in calculating earnings per unit:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Earnings used in calculating basic and diluted earnings per unit of the Trust Group	252.3	1,181.1

The following weighted average number of units are used as the denominator in calculating earnings per unit:

	30-Jun-23 Number (m)	30-Jun-22 Number (m)
Weighted average number of units used as the denominator in calculating basic earnings per unit	4,552.2	4,552.2
Adjustment for potential dilution from performance and restricted rights	8.3	9.1
Weighted average number of units used as the denominator in calculating diluted earnings per unit	4,560.5	4,561.3

Capital structure and financial risk management

7. Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives

Interest bearing liabilities are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Foreign currency denominated notes are translated to AUD at the applicable exchange rate at each reporting period with the gain or loss attributable to exchange rate movements recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(a) Summary of facilities

The following table outlines the Trust Group's interest bearing liabilities at balance date:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Current liabilities		
Unsecured		
Bank debt ¹	123.0	-
AUD Medium Term Notes (AMTNs)	200.0	-
US Private Placement Notes (USPPs)	-	40.0
Total current liabilities	323.0	40.0
Non-current liabilities		
Unsecured		
Bank debt	330.0	233.0
AMTNs ²	958.8	1,158.1
GBP European Medium Term Notes (GBMTNs)	665.6	615.6
HKD European Medium Term Notes (HKMTNs)	122.5	118.2
USPPs	868.4	842.6
EUR European Medium Term Notes (EUMTNs)	815.3	755.9
Deferred debt costs ³	(10.1)	(10.9)
Total non-current liabilities	3,750.5	3,712.5
Total interest bearing liabilities	4,073.5	3,752.5

1. The Trust Group provided irrevocable notices of repayment at reporting date. This was repaid on 4 July 2023.
2. Non-current unsecured AMTNs include \$60.0 million issued under the Trust Group's EUMTN program and \$300.0 million of Green Bonds. The proceeds of Green Bonds were utilised to fund eligible green projects and assets with high sustainability rating (e.g. NABERS Energy rating of 5 stars or higher).
3. Deferred debt costs comprise the unamortised value of borrowing costs paid on establishment or refinancing of debt facilities. These costs are deferred on the Balance Sheet and amortised at the effective interest rate to borrowing costs in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

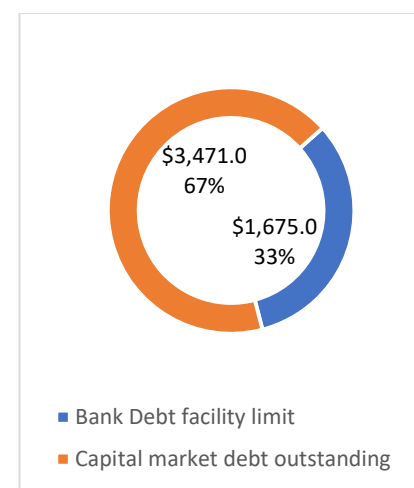
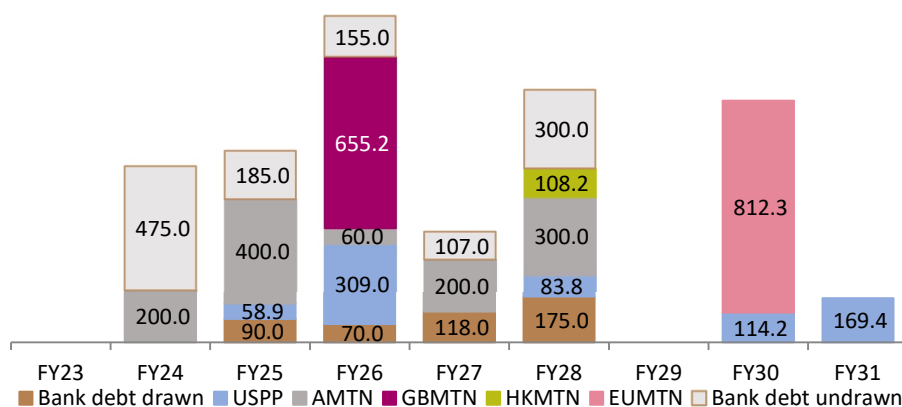
7. Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives (continued)

(b) Facility maturity and availability

The charts below outline the maturity of the Trust Group's total available facilities at 30 June 2023 by type, and the bank to capital markets debt ratio. Of the \$5,146.0 million total available facilities (30 June 2022: \$5,585.9 million), \$1,222.0 million remains undrawn at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: \$1,842.0 million).

Available facilities expiry profile (\$m)^{1,2}

Bank to capital market debt ratio (\$m, %)



- The carrying amount of the USPPs, GBMTNs, HKMTNs, EUMTNs and AMTNs on the Balance Sheet is net of adjustments for fair value items and foreign exchange translation losses of \$159.6 million (30 June 2022: losses of \$19.4 million). These adjustments are excluded from the calculation of total facilities available and amounts drawn as shown in the charts. Additionally, deferred debt costs of \$10.1 million (30 June 2022: \$10.9 million) are not reflected in the amount drawn.
- \$123.0 million of the bank debt facility was classified as current as the Trust Group provided irrevocable notices of repayment at reporting date. This was repaid on 4 July 2023.

(c) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs incurred in connection with borrowing funds (such as establishment fees, legal and other fees). Borrowing costs are expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income using the effective interest rate method, except for borrowing costs incurred for the development of qualifying investment properties which are capitalised to the cost of the investment property during the period of development. Borrowing costs also include finance charges on lease liabilities.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Interest and other costs on interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	174.4	155.2
Amortisation of deferred debt costs	4.3	4.5
Amortisation of face value discounts	1.6	1.7
Amortisation of fair value adjustments relating to discontinuation of hedge accounting	(1.3)	(1.3)
Interest charge on lease liabilities	26.9	26.6
Capitalised borrowing costs	(3.4)	(1.5)
Total borrowing costs	202.5	185.2

(d) Defaults and covenants

At 30 June 2023, the Trust Group had no defaults on debt obligations or breaches of lending covenants (30 June 2022: nil).

7. Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives (continued)

(e) Derivatives

As detailed further in Note 8, derivative instruments are held to hedge against the interest rate risk and foreign currency risk of the Trust Group's borrowings. These are not accounted for under hedge accounting. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently remeasured to their fair value at each reporting period. The fair value of these derivatives is estimated using valuation techniques, including referencing to the current fair value of other instruments that are substantially the same or calculation of discounted cash flows. These valuation techniques use observable Level 2 inputs, mainly interest rates and interest rate curves as well as foreign currency rates and foreign currency curves. The Trust Group does not currently have a legally enforceable right to set-off the derivative assets and liabilities. As such, the derivatives are presented on a gross basis.

The following are recorded within the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of derivative financial instruments:

- Movements in fair value are recognised within net mark-to-market movement on derivatives; and
- The net interest received or paid is included within borrowing costs.

The classification of derivatives is presented based on the net cash outflows expected to be settled (or net cash inflows expected to be realised) within 12 months in determining the current liability (or current asset). A derivative contract is considered a single unit of account, therefore when the overall derivative's fair value is a liability (asset), any net cash inflows (outflows) within 12 months are not separately presented.

The carrying amount and notional principal amounts of these instruments are shown in the table below:

30-Jun-23	Notional principal amount \$m	Carrying amount			
		Current asset \$m	Non-current asset \$m	Current liability \$m	Non-current liability \$m
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive USD fixed)	660.3	-	87.5	(2.2)	(5.2)
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive GBP fixed)	655.2	-	-	(18.8)	(47.8)
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive HKD fixed)	108.2	-	7.9	-	-
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive EUR fixed)	812.3	-	-	(38.3)	(95.9)
Interest rate swaps (fixed to floating) ¹	2,425.0	39.1	132.2	-	-
Total carrying amount of derivative financial instruments ²	n/a	39.1	227.6	(59.3)	(148.9)

30-Jun-22	Notional principal amount \$m	Carrying amount			
		Current asset \$m	Non-current asset \$m	Current liability \$m	Non-current liability \$m
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive USD fixed)	660.3	1.4	86.3	(4.1)	(4.1)
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive GBP fixed)	655.2	-	-	(10.8)	(61.3)
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive HKD fixed)	108.2	-	6.4	-	-
Cross currency swaps (pay AUD floating receive EUR fixed)	812.3	-	-	(7.0)	(145.9)
Interest rate swaps (fixed to floating) ¹	2,525.0	7.8	126.9	(1.0)	-
Interest rate swaps (floating to fixed)	400.0	0.3	-	-	(9.7)
Total carrying amount of derivative financial instruments ²	n/a	9.5	219.6	(22.9)	(221.0)

1. Notional value excludes the \$300.0 million swaps with a forward start date in August 2025 (30 June 2022: \$300.0 million). The fair value of this forward start contract at 30 June 2023 is included in the carrying value of \$132.2 million (30 June 2022: \$126.9 million).
2. The net movement in the carrying amount of derivative financial instruments during the year of \$73.3 million was due to mark-to-market fair value adjustments of \$66.4 million and the termination of interest rate swaps of \$6.9 million in February 2023.

7. Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives (continued)

(f) Changes in interest bearing liabilities arising from financing activities

The table below details changes in the Trust Group's interest bearing liabilities arising from financing activities, including both cash and non-cash changes:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Opening balance	3,752.5	3,281.9
New bond issuance – Green Bonds	-	300.0
Net drawdowns of borrowings	180.0	157.0
Foreign exchange rate adjustments recognised in profit and loss	139.9	10.3
Payment of deferred debt costs	(3.5)	(1.6)
Amortisation of face value discount	1.6	1.7
Amortisation of deferred debt costs	4.3	4.5
Fair value movements, non-cash	(1.3)	(1.3)
Closing balance	4,073.5	3,752.5

(g) Fair value of interest bearing liabilities

As at 30 June 2023 the Trust Group's interest bearing liabilities had a fair value of \$3,759.3 million (30 June 2022: \$3,526.5 million).

The carrying amount of these interest bearing liabilities was \$4,073.5 million (30 June 2022: \$3,752.5 million). The difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of interest bearing liabilities is due to:

- Deferred debt costs included in the carrying value which are not included in the fair value; and
- Movements in market discount rates on interest bearing liabilities since initial recognition. As fair value is calculated by discounting the contractual cash flows using prevailing market discount rates (with similar terms, maturity and credit quality) any movements in these discount rates since initial recognition will give rise to differences between fair value and the carrying value (which is at amortised cost).

Had the interest bearing liabilities been recognised at fair value, these would have been classified as Level 2 under the fair value hierarchy as the market discount rates used are indirectly observable.

8. Capital and financial risk management

In the course of its operations the Trust Group is exposed to certain financial risks that could affect the Trust Group's financial position and performance. This note explains the sources of the risks below, how they are managed by the Trust Group and exposure at reporting date:

- Interest rate risk, Note 8(a);
- Foreign exchange risk, Note 8(b);
- Liquidity risk, Note 8(c); and
- Credit risk, Note 8(d).

Information about the Trust Group's objectives for managing capital is contained in Note 8(e).

8. Capital and financial risk management (continued)

Risk management approach

The Vicinity Centres Group's treasury team is responsible for the day to day management of the Trust Group's capital requirements and the financial risks identified above. These activities are overseen by the internal management Capital Management Committee (CMC), operating under the CMC Charter and the treasury policy. This policy is endorsed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd. The overall objectives of the CMC are to:

- Ensure that the Trust Group has funds available to meet all financial obligations, working capital and committed capital expenditure requirements;
- Monitor and ensure compliance with all relevant financial covenants and other undertakings under the Trust Group's debt facilities;
- Reduce the impact of adverse interest rate or foreign exchange movements on the Trust Group's financial performance and position using approved financial instruments;
- Diversify banking counterparties to mitigate counterparty credit risk; and
- Ensure the Vicinity Centres Group treasury team operates in an appropriate control environment, with effective systems and procedures.

(a) Interest rate risk

Nature and sources of risk

Interest rate risk represents the potential for changes in market interest rates to impact the total interest expense on floating rate borrowings (cash flow interest rate risk) or the fair value of derivatives (fair value interest rate risk) held by the Trust Group.

Risk management

Interest rate swaps are used to manage cash flow interest rate risk by targeting a hedge ratio on the Trust Group's interest-bearing liabilities. Under the terms of the interest rate swaps, the Trust Group agrees to exchange, at specified intervals, amounts based on the difference between fixed interest rates and the floating market interest rate calculated by reference to an agreed notional principal amount. None of these derivatives are currently in designated hedge relationships. They are also not permitted to be entered into for speculative purposes.

Exposure

As at the balance date, the Trust Group had the following exposure to cash flow interest rate risk:

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Total interest bearing liabilities	7(a)	4,073.5	3,752.5
<i>Reconciliation to drawn debt</i>			
Deferred debt costs		10.1	10.9
Fair value and foreign exchange adjustments to EUMTNs		(3.0)	56.4
Fair value and foreign exchange adjustments to GBMTNs		(10.4)	39.6
Fair value and foreign exchange adjustments to USPPs		(133.1)	(107.4)
Fair value adjustments to AMTNs		1.2	1.9
Foreign exchange adjustments to HKMTNs		(14.3)	(10.0)
Total drawn debt		3,924.0	3,743.9
Less: Fixed rate borrowings		(1,000.0)	(1,040.0)
Variable rate borrowings exposed to cash flow interest rate risk		2,924.0	2,703.9
Less: Notional principal of outstanding interest rate swap contracts		(2,425.0)	(2,125.0)
Net variable rate borrowings exposed to cash flow interest rate risk		499.0	578.9
Hedge ratio ¹		87.3%	84.5%

1. Calculated as net variable rate borrowings exposed to cash flow interest rate risk divided by total drawn debt.

8. Capital and financial risk management (continued)

(a) Interest rate risk (continued)

Sensitivity

A shift in the floating interest rate of +/- 50 bps, assuming the net exposure to cash flow interest rate risk as at 30 June 2023 remains unchanged for the next 12 months, would impact the Trust Group's cash interest cost for the next 12 months by \$2.5 million (30 June 2022 +/- 100 bps: \$5.8 million).

A shift in the forward interest rate curve of +/- 50 bps, assuming the net exposure to fair value interest rate risk as at 30 June 2023 remains unchanged for the next 12 months, would impact net profit and equity for the next 12 months by \$10.4 million (30 June 2022 +/- 100 bps: \$36.0 million).

This sensitivity analysis should not be considered a projection.

(b) Foreign exchange rate risk

Nature and sources of risk

Foreign exchange risk represents the potential for changes in market foreign exchange rates to impact the cash flows arising from the Trust Group's foreign denominated interest bearing liabilities (cash flow foreign exchange rate risk) or the fair value of derivatives and the carrying value of interest bearing liabilities (fair value foreign exchange rate risk) held by the Trust Group.

Risk management

Cash flow foreign exchange rate risk is managed through the use of cross currency swaps, which swap the foreign currency interest payments on foreign denominated interest bearing liabilities into Australian dollars and fix the exchange rate for the conversion of the principal repayment. None of these derivatives are currently in designated hedge relationships. They are also not permitted to be entered into for speculative purposes.

Exposure

As at the balance date, the Trust Group had entered into cross currency swaps with terms offsetting those of all foreign denominated interest bearing liabilities and therefore had no significant net exposure to cash flow foreign exchange rate risk (30 June 2022: nil net exposure). The Trust Group has exposure to fair value foreign exchange risk on the valuation of the derivative financial instruments. The table below summarises the foreign denominated interest bearing liabilities held by the Trust Group. Details of cross currency swaps held are shown in Note 7(e).

Foreign denominated interest bearing liabilities	Foreign currency	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
GBMTNs	GBP £	350.0	350.0
HKMTNs	HKD \$	640.0	640.0
USPPs	USD \$	523.0	523.0
EUMTNs	EUR €	500.0	500.0

Sensitivity

A shift in the forward GBP, HKD, EUR and USD exchange rate curves of +/- 5.0 cents, assuming the net exposure to fair value foreign exchange rate risk as at 30 June 2023 remains unchanged for the next 12 months, would impact net profit and equity for the next 12 months by \$10.6 million (30 June 2022 +/- 5.0 cents: \$1.3 million).

This sensitivity analysis should not be considered a projection.

8. Capital and financial risk management (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Nature and sources of risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Trust Group will be unable to meet financial obligations as they fall due.

Risk management

To manage this risk, sufficient capacity under the Trust Group's financing facilities is maintained to meet the funding needs identified in the Trust Group's latest forecasts. This is achieved through obtaining and maintaining funding from a range of sources (e.g. banks and Australian and foreign debt capital markets), maintaining sufficient undrawn debt capacity and cash balances, and managing the amount of borrowings that mature, or facilities that expire, in any one year.

Exposure

The contractual maturity of cash on term deposit, interest bearing liabilities and the interest payment profile on interest bearing liabilities and derivatives are shown below. Estimated interest and principal payments are calculated based on the forward interest and foreign exchange rates prevailing at year end and are undiscounted. Timing of payments is based on current contractual obligations. Refer to Note 12 for details on trade payables and other financial liabilities and Note 15(b) for lease liabilities that are not included in the table below.

30-Jun-23	Less than 1 year \$m	1 to 3 years \$m	Greater than 3 years \$m	Total \$m
Bank debt ¹	123.0	105.0	225.0	453.0
AMTNs	200.0	460.0	500.0	1,160.0
GBMTNs	-	648.1	-	648.1
HKMTNs	-	-	127.3	127.3
USPPs	-	423.6	450.3	873.9
EUMTNs	-	-	910.0	910.0
Estimated interest payments and line fees on borrowings	144.5	228.4	162.6	535.5
Estimated net interest rate swap cash (inflows)	(43.1)	(67.8)	(88.1)	(199.0)
Estimated gross cross currency swap cash outflows	143.3	1,283.7	1,443.2	2,870.2
Estimated gross cross currency swap cash (inflows)	(66.2)	(1,192.7)	(1,507.6)	(2,766.5)
Total contractual outflows	501.5	1,888.3	2,222.7	4,612.5

1. Repayment of \$123.0 million of bank debt made in July 2023, following the sale of 50% interest in Broadmeadows Central.

30-Jun-22	Less than 1 year \$m	1 to 3 years \$m	Greater than 3 years \$m	Total \$m
Bank debt	-	233.0	-	233.0
AMTNs	-	600.0	560.0	1,160.0
GBMTNs	-	-	649.5	649.5
HKMTNs	-	-	126.0	126.0
USPPs	40.0	85.0	791.3	916.3
EUMTNs	-	-	910.4	910.4
Estimated interest payments and line fees on borrowings	132.8	233.2	236.1	602.1
Estimated net interest rate swap cash (inflows)	(6.4)	(46.6)	(91.2)	(144.2)
Estimated gross cross currency swap cash outflows	80.8	317.8	2,556.1	2,954.7
Estimated gross cross currency swap cash (inflows)	(63.1)	(212.0)	(2,553.7)	(2,828.8)
Total contractual outflows	184.1	1,210.4	3,184.5	4,579.0

8. Capital and financial risk management (continued)

(d) Credit risk

Nature and sources of risk

Credit risk is the risk that a tenant or counterparty to a financial asset held by the Trust Group fails to meet their financial obligations. The Trust Group's financial assets that are subject to credit risk are bank deposits, tenant receivables and derivative financial assets.

Risk management

To mitigate credit risk in relation to derivative counterparties and bank deposits the Trust Group has policies to limit exposure to any one financial institution and only deal with those parties with high credit quality. To mitigate tenant credit risk, an assessment is performed taking into consideration the financial background of the tenant and the amount of any security deposit or bank guarantee provided as collateral under the lease, as is usual in leasing agreements. On an ongoing basis, trade receivable balances from tenants are monitored with the Trust Group considering receivables that have not been paid for 30 days after the invoice date as past due. In previous reporting periods, the credit risk on tenant receivables increased as many of the Trust Group's tenants were unable or chose not to trade, or had their trade significantly impacted during the pandemic. Note 11 further discusses the assessment of credit risk on tenant receivables at 30 June 2023.

Exposure

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the balance date is the carrying amount of the Trust Group's financial assets which are recognised within the Balance Sheet net of allowance for losses. As at balance date, there are no significant concentrations of credit risk with any tenant or tenant group.

(e) Capital management

The Vicinity Centres Group seeks to maintain a strong and conservative capital structure with appropriate liquidity, low gearing and a diversified debt profile (by source and tenor). The Vicinity Centres Group has credit ratings of 'A2/stable' from Moody's Investors Service and 'A/stable' from Standard & Poor's (S&P) Global Ratings.

Key metrics monitored are gearing ratio and interest cover ratio of the Vicinity Centres Group. Refer to Note 8 of the Vicinity Centres Group 30 June 2023 financial statements available at vicinity.com.au for further details of these metrics.

9. Contributed equity

An ordinary stapled security of the Vicinity Centres Group comprises one share in the Company and one unit in the Trust. Ordinary stapled securities entitle the holder to participate in distributions and the proceeds on winding up of the Vicinity Centres Group (if enacted) in proportion to the number of securities held. Ordinary stapled securities are classified as equity. All ordinary securities are fully paid.

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new stapled securities are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new stapled securities for the acquisition of a business are not included in the cost of the acquisition as part of the purchase consideration.

	30-Jun-23 Number (m)	30-Jun-22 Number (m)	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Total units on issue at the beginning of the year	4,552.2	4,552.2	8,560.8	8,560.8
Total units on issue at the end of the year	4,552.2	4,552.2	8,560.8	8,560.8

Treasury securities are on-market securities purchased by the Vicinity Centres Group to settle employee share based payment plans. The Vicinity Centres Group held 1.0 million or \$1.8 million of treasury securities at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: 0.4 million shares or \$1.0 million).

10. Distributions

(a) Distributions for the year

	30-Jun-23 Cents ¹	30-Jun-22 Cents ¹	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Distributions paid/payable in respect of the earnings:				
For six-months to 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022)	6.25	5.70	284.5	259.5
For six-months to 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021)	5.75	4.70	261.8	213.9
Total distributions for the year	12.00	10.40	546.3	473.4

1. Cents per VCX stapled security.

An interim distribution of 5.75 cents per VCX stapled security, which equates to \$261.8 million, was paid on 7 March 2023.

On 16 August 2023, the Directors declared a distribution in respect of the Vicinity Centres Group's earnings for the six-months to 30 June 2023 of 6.25 cents per VCX stapled security, which equates to total final distribution of \$284.5 million. The final distribution will be paid on 11 September 2023.

(b) Distributions paid during the year

	30-Jun-23 Cents ¹	30-Jun-22 Cents ¹	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Distributions paid in respect of the earnings:				
For six-months to 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021)	5.75	4.70	261.8	213.9
For six-months to 30 June 2022 (30 June 2021)	5.70	6.60	259.5	300.4
Total distributions paid during the year	11.45	11.30	521.3	514.3

1. Cents per VCX stapled security.

Working capital

11. Trade receivables and other assets

(a) Summary

Trade receivables comprise amounts due from tenants of the Trust Group's investment properties under lease agreements and amounts receivable from strategic partners under property management agreements.

Trade receivables and other assets are held to collect contractual cash flows. Trade receivables and other assets are initially recognised at the transaction price or fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, less an allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs). Trade receivables and other assets with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting date are classified as non-current assets.

At 30 June 2023, the carrying value of trade receivables and other assets approximated their fair value.

	Note	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Current trade receivables			
Trade debtors		19.2	104.9
Deferred rent ¹		2.5	8.4
Accrued income		29.8	16.1
Less: estimated rent waivers	11(b)	(2.0)	(20.3)
Less: allowance for expected credit losses	11(b)	(5.4)	(54.3)
Total current trade receivables ²		44.1	54.8
Current other assets			
Distributions receivable from joint ventures and associates		14.2	6.5
Prepayments		10.8	7.1
Land tax levies		17.7	21.2
Tenant security deposits held		1.2	0.4
Related party receivable		8.2	4.1
Other ³		28.6	13.8
Total current other assets		80.7	53.1
Total current trade receivables and other assets		124.8	107.9
Non-current other assets			
Deferred rent ¹		1.0	3.1
Less: allowance for expected credit losses	11(b)	(0.1)	(1.4)
Loan to Vicinity Limited		492.8	525.5
Investment in unlisted fund at fair value		6.5	3.3
Total non-current other assets		500.2	530.5

1. Under certain rent assistance agreements, rents are deferred to be repaid at a later date.

2. Include receivables relating to lease rental income, recovery of property outgoings and other property-related revenues. Refer to Note 2 for an analysis of the Trust Group's revenue and income.

3. Current period includes sales proceeds of \$14.8 million held in escrow from the partial disposal of vacant land at Castle Plaza.

Significant Judgement and Estimate

The key inputs and assumptions used in the determination of allowance for ECLs at reporting date are subject to uncertainty around the impact of high inflation and interest rates on consumer spending and rental collection rates. If these factors vary from management's estimate, this may result in a different outcome to the Trust Group's allowance for ECLs in future periods. The level of judgement and estimation have decreased due to reduced debt balance at 30 June 2023.

11. Trade receivables and other assets (continued)

(b) Allowance for expected credit losses

The allowance for ECLs represents the difference between cash flows contractually receivable by the Trust Group and the cash flows the Trust Group expects to receive. For trade receivables, contract assets and lease receivables, the Trust Group applies the simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Trust Group does not track the changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date.

The recognition of an ECL, however, does not mean that the Trust Group has ceased collection activities in relation to the amounts owed. Tenant debt is considered to be in default if contractual payments have not been made when they fall due and is written off when collections are extremely unlikely based on historical experience and/or being pursued by legal means.

Approach

The allowance of ECLs consist of the following:

- Estimated rent waivers of \$2.0 million (30 June 2022: \$20.3 million) based on the ongoing rental assistance negotiations across the portfolio as at reporting date; and
- Expected credit losses of \$5.5 million (30 June 2022: \$55.7 million) on the residual trade debtors net of estimated rent waivers (residual debt). This involves segmenting the residual debt in accordance with a number of factors such as age of the outstanding debt, risk profiles such as locations or type of assets, trading conditions, and tenant credit risk factors such as size (Major, National and SME). The ECL of these segments are then assessed with reference to the historical losses, estimated collection rates, and other adjustments such as current and planned collection activities and tenants' financial position (if known). Macroeconomic factors that may affect the tenants' ability to pay are also considered, such as unemployment, interest and inflation rates, and business confidence.

As at 30 June 2023, \$9.9 million, which represents approximately 43.6% of total trade receivables, is considered past due but not impaired (30 June 2022: \$39.4 million which represents 33.8% of total trade receivables).

Movements in the allowance for ECLs

The movement in the allowance for ECLs in respect of trade receivables during the year was as follows:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Opening balance at 1 July	(76.0)	(130.9)
Amounts written off as uncollectible	31.1	10.5
Rental waivers granted	18.2	57.0
Net remeasurement of prior period allowance ^{1,2}	27.2	60.6
Loss allowance on receivables originated during the current period	(8.0)	(73.2)
Closing balance at 30 June	(7.5)	(76.0)

1. The opening balance of allowance for ECLs at 1 July was remeasured due to better outcomes than anticipated in the Trust Group's rent waiver negotiations and estimated collection rates relative to assumptions adopted previously. These outcomes have been incorporated into the key inputs used to determine the allowance for ECLs at 30 June 2023.

2. Excludes recovery of previously written off trade receivables of \$2.3 million (30 June 2022: \$nil).

12. Payables and other financial liabilities

Payables and other financial liabilities represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Trust Group prior to the end of the financial year and that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. Trade and other payables are carried at amortised cost and are not discounted due to their short-term nature.

At 30 June 2023, the carrying value of payables and other financial liabilities approximated their fair value.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Trade payables and accrued expenses	94.7	92.1
Lease rental income and property outgoings recovery revenue received in advance ¹	29.0	21.4
Accrued interest expense	21.7	15.6
Accrued capital expenditure	27.4	30.2
Security deposits	1.3	0.8
Related party payables	26.7	34.7
Other	3.2	8.2
Total payables and other financial liabilities	204.0	203.0

1. Largely represents amounts received in advance relating to the following month's lease rental income and recovery of property outgoings revenue.

13. Provisions

Provisions comprise liabilities for land tax levies and other items for which the amount or timing of the settlement is uncertain as it is outside the control of the Trust Group.

Where the provisions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the obligation arises, the liability is discounted to present value based on management's best estimate of the timing of settlement and the expenditure required to settle the liability at the reporting date.

The movements for the year in other provisions are as follows:

	30-Jun-23 Land tax levies \$m	30-Jun-22 Land tax levies \$m
Opening balance at 1 July	21.0	20.5
Arising during the year	17.7	21.0
Paid during the year	(21.0)	(20.5)
Closing balance 30 June	17.7	21.0

Other disclosures

14. Remuneration of the Responsible Entity and Employees

The Trust Group is required to have an incorporated responsible entity (RE) to manage its activities. The RE provides Key Management Personnel for the Trust Group. The total RE fee recognised by the Trust Group for the year was \$52,010,000 (30 June 2022: \$51,105,000). At 30 June 2023, \$25,708,000 fees remained payable to the RE (30 June 2022: \$26,195,000).

The Trust Group is not required to prepare a Remuneration Report as the Directors and other Key Management Personnel are employed by the RE or its related entities. The Remuneration Report for the Vicinity Centres Group can be found in the 30 June 2023 Vicinity Centres Annual Report at vicinity.com.au.

15. Leases

All leases (lessee accounting) are accounted for by recognising a right of use asset and a lease liability except for leases of low value assets and short-term leases which are expensed in the period when incurred.

Lease liabilities

Lease liabilities are measured at the present value of the contractual payments due to the lessor over the lease term (which includes any extension option periods assessed as reasonably certain to be exercised). The discount rate applied is determined by reference to the interest rate implicit in the lease unless (as is typically the case) this is not readily determinable, in which case the lessee's incremental borrowing rate on commencement of the lease is used. Variable lease payments are only included in the measurement of the lease liability if they depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date. In such cases, the initial measurement of the lease liability assumes the variable element will remain unchanged throughout the lease. Other variable lease payments are expensed in the period to which they relate.

On initial recognition, the carrying value of the lease liability also includes:

- Amounts expected to be payable under any residual value guarantee;
- The exercise price of any purchase option granted in favour of the Trust Group if it is reasonably certain to exercise that option; and
- Any penalties payable for terminating the lease, if the term of the lease has been estimated on the basis of the termination option being exercised.

Subsequent to initial measurement, lease liabilities increase as a result of interest charged at a constant rate on the balance outstanding and are reduced for lease payments made. Lease liabilities are remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from modification, a change in an index or rate, when there is a change in the assessment of the term of any lease or a change in the assessment of purchasing the underlying asset.

Right of use assets

Right of use assets are initially measured at the amount of the lease liability recognised, adjusted for any prepaid lease payments, initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of costs to be incurred by the lessee in restoring the site on which it is located.

Right of use assets relating to investment properties are included within the investment property balance and are measured at fair value in accordance with AASB 140 *Investment Property*.

15. Leases (continued)

(a) Movements for the year

The table below show the movements in the Trust Group's lease related balances for the year:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Opening balance - 1 July	(346.7)	(343.2)
Interest charge on lease liabilities	(26.9)	(26.6)
Lease payments	23.9	23.1
New leases during the period	-	-
Market rent reassessment	(0.9)	-
Closing balance – 30 June ¹	(350.6)²	(346.7)²

1. Total lease liabilities of \$350.6 million (30 June 2022: \$346.7 million) represents \$1.2 million of current lease liabilities (30 June 2022: \$1.1 million) and \$349.4 million of non-current lease liabilities (30 June 2022: \$345.6 million).
2. A number of the Trust Group's investment properties are held under long-term leasehold arrangements as disclosed in Note 4(d). The right of use assets in relation to these investment property leaseholds meet the definition of investment property and are presented within investment property in Note 4(a).

(b) Lease liabilities maturity profile

The table below show the undiscounted maturity profile of the Trust Group's lease liabilities due as follows:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Lease liabilities		
Not later than one year	24.7	23.9
Later than one but not more than five years	107.7	103.9
More than five years	768.0	791.6
Total	900.4	919.4

The Trust Group also recognised variable lease payments of \$18.3 million during the year (30 June 2022: \$16.4 million). These related primarily to investment property leaseholds where a component of lease payments is based on profitability achieved by the relevant property. As these lease payments are variable in nature, they are not included within the investment property leaseholds lease liability balance.

16. Operating cash flow reconciliation

The reconciliation of net profit after tax for the year to net cash provided by operating activities is provided below.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Net profit after tax	252.3	1,181.1
<i>Exclude non-cash items and cash flows under investing and financing activities:</i>		
Amortisation of incentives and leasing costs	85.7	78.6
Straight-lining of rent adjustment	(3.1)	3.7
Property revaluation decrement/(increment) for directly owned properties	197.7	(628.0)
Share of net loss/(gain) of equity accounted investments	50.5	(16.6)
Amortisation of non-cash items included in interest expense	4.6	4.9
Net foreign exchange movement on interest bearing liabilities	139.9	10.3
Net mark-to-market movement on derivatives	(66.4)	(88.6)
Stamp duty paid	-	21.9
Other non-cash items	2.7	(3.7)
<i>Movements in working capital:</i>		
(Decrease)/increase in payables and other financial liabilities, and provisions	(0.1)	22.8
Decrease/(increase) in receivables including distributions receivable and other assets	15.6	(19.1)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	679.4	567.3

17. Auditor's remuneration

During the year, the following fees were paid or payable for services provided to the Vicinity Centres Group by the auditor, EY or its related practices.

	30-Jun-23 \$'000	30-Jun-22 \$'000
Audit and review of statutory financial statements of Vicinity Centres Group and its controlled entities	1,297	1,282
Assurance services required by legislation to be provided by the auditor	21	19
Other assurance and agreed-upon procedures services under other legislation or contractual arrangements		
Property related audits ¹	274	223
Sustainability assurance services	50	-
Other assurance services	51	48
Total other assurance services under other legislation or contractual arrangements	375	271
Other services		
Taxation compliance services	277	271
Sustainability assurance services	140	-
Other services	44	40
Total other services	461	311
Total auditor's remuneration	2,154	1,883

1. Comprises audits of outgoing statements, promotional funds, real estate trust account and joint venture audits required under legislation or contractual arrangements.

18. Parent entity financial information

(a) Summary financials

The financial information presented below represents that of the legal parent entity, Vicinity Centres Trust. Vicinity Centres Trust recognises investments in subsidiary entities at cost, less any impairment since acquisition. Other accounting policies are consistent with those used for the preparation of the consolidated Financial Report.

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Current assets	1,454.0	1,245.1
Total assets	15,664.3	15,478.3
Current liabilities	1,602.1	1,477.8
Total liabilities	5,206.3	5,006.0
Net assets	10,458.0	10,472.3
Equity		
Contributed equity	13,966.6	13,996.6
Accumulated losses	(3,538.6)	(3,524.4)
Total equity	10,458.0	10,472.3
Net profit for the financial year	507.1	597.5
Total comprehensive income for the financial year	507.1	597.5

The parent entity has no capital expenditure commitments (30 June 2022: nil) which have been contracted but not provided for, or contingencies (30 June 2022: nil) as at reporting date. Guarantees provided to subsidiary entities of Vicinity Centres Group are disclosed at Note 20(b) and predominantly relate to fulfilling capital requirements under Australian Financial Services Licences held by these subsidiaries.

19. Related parties

(a) Background

The parent entity of the Trust Group is Vicinity Centres Trust which is domiciled and incorporated in Australia. The deemed parent entity of the Vicinity Centres Group under AASB 3 *Business Combinations* is Vicinity Limited.

(b) Information on related party transactions and balances

The transactions with related parties, on normal commercial terms, and the balances outstanding at 30 June 2023 are outlined in the tables below. Transactions and balances relating to equity accounted investments and the RE are disclosed in Notes 5(d) and 14 respectively.

	30-Jun-23 \$'000	30-Jun-22 \$'000
Ultimate parent		
Interest income on loan to Vicinity Limited	28,400	15,871
Other related parties		
<i>Revenue and income</i>		
Distribution revenue	-	8
Rent and outgoings revenue and income	26,171	24,847
<i>Expenses and reimbursements</i>		
Borrowing costs on secured related party borrowings	-	(78)
Asset management fees	(92,736)	(80,924)
Reimbursement of expenses	(51,962)	(49,785)

(c) Information on related party balances

Outstanding related party trade receivables balances at year end are unsecured and settlement occurs in cash. The Trust Group does not hold any collateral in relation to related party receivables.

	30-Jun-23 \$'000	30-Jun-22 \$'000
Ultimate parent		
Interest receivable on loan to Vicinity Limited	8,159	4,097
Other related parties		
Capital expenditure payable	-	(10)
Other payables	(952)	(8,194)
Other receivables	1,721	1,400

20. Commitments and contingencies

(a) Capital commitments

Estimated capital expenditure and tenant incentives contracted for at reporting date, but not recognised in the Balance Sheet:

	30-Jun-23 \$m	30-Jun-22 \$m
Not later than one year	187.3	120.2
Later than one but not more than five years	0.1	-
Total capital commitments	187.4	120.2

(b) Contingent assets and liabilities

Bank guarantees totalling \$39.3 million (30 June 2022: \$40.7 million) have been arranged by the Vicinity Centres Group, primarily to guarantee obligations for two of the Vicinity Centres Group's Responsible Entities to meet their financial obligations under their Australian Financial Services Licences, and for other capital commitments of the Trust Group.

As at reporting date, there were no other material contingent assets or liabilities.

21. Other Group accounting matters

This section contains other accounting policies that relate to the financial statements, detail of any changes in accounting policies and the impact of new or amended accounting standards.

Principles of consolidation

These consolidated financial statements comprise the assets and liabilities of all controlled entities at 30 June 2023 and the results of all controlled entities for the financial year unless otherwise stated. Controlled entities are:

- All entities over which the Trust Group is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the relevant activities of the entity; and
- Fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Trust Group, and, where applicable, deconsolidated from the date on which control ceases.

The acquisition method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of controlled entities, and the balances and effects of transactions between all controlled entities are eliminated in full.

Investments in joint operations

Included in investment properties are shopping centres that are accounted for as joint operations – in the form of direct ownership of a partial freehold or leasehold interest in a shopping centre with a strategic partner, based on standard market joint operation agreements. The Trust Group accounts for joint operations by recognising its share of the shopping centre, classified as investment property, and its share of other assets, liabilities, income and expenses from the use and output of the joint operation.

Fair value measurement

The Trust Group has classified fair value measurements into the following hierarchy as required by AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*:

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

21. Other Group accounting matters (continued)

Impact of new and amended accounting standards

New and amended standards that became effective as of 1 July 2022 did not have a material impact on the financial statements of the Trust Group as they are either not relevant to the Trust Group's activities or require accounting which is consistent with the Trust Group's accounting policies.

Future impact of Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued but not yet effective

The Trust Group has not adopted any standard, interpretation or amendment that has been issued but is not yet effective and there are none that are expected to have a material impact on the Trust Group's financial position or performance.

The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) issued their first two sustainability disclosure standards, IFRS S1 *General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information* and IFRS S2 *Climate-related Disclosures* in June 2023. In addition, as at the reporting date, the Treasury Department was completing a second round of consultation for the detailed implementation and sequencing of standardised, internationally aligned requirements for disclosure of climate-related financial risks and opportunities in Australia.

The Trust Group will continue to monitor the regulatory developments within Australia. In the meantime, the Trust Group continues to assess the impact of climate change when preparing the financial statements where relevant, in line with emerging industry and regulatory guidance.

Government grants

The Trust Group was eligible for land tax relief for financial/calendar years 2020 and 2021 in accordance with the respective state government land tax relief measures. Gross payments received for the year ended 30 June 2023 were nil (30 June 2022: \$16.5 million).

22. Events occurring after the end of the reporting period

Capital management activities

Subsequent to 30 June 2023, the following transactions were completed:

- \$200.0 million of new and extended bank debt facility with FY27 maturity;
- Repaid \$123.0 million of drawn bank debt following the sale of 50% interest in Broadmeadows Central; and
- Cancelled \$300.0 million of bank debt facilities.

Other than the matters described above, no other matters have arisen since the end of the reporting period which have significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Trust Group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Trust Group in future financial periods.

Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd as Responsible Entity for Vicinity Centres Trust (the Trust), we declare that:

- (a) in the opinion of the Directors, the financial statements and notes set out on pages 10 to 48 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), including:
 - i. giving a true and fair view of the Trust and its controlled entities' financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001* (Cth); and
 - iii. complying with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board as disclosed in the About this Report section of the financial statements; and
- (b) in the opinion of the Directors, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Trust and its controlled entities will be able to pay their debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (c) the Directors have been given the Declarations required to be made to the Directors in accordance with section 295A of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd.



Trevor Gerber
Chairman
16 August 2023



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Independent Auditor's Report to the Unitholders of Vicinity Centres Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Vicinity Centres Trust (the "Trust") and the entities it controlled (collectively the "Group"), which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration of the directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd, the Responsible Entity of the Trust.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Group is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) Giving a true and fair view of the consolidated balance sheet of the Group as at 30 June 2023 and of its consolidated financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial report of the current year. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, but we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial report.

1. Shopping Centre Investment Property Portfolio – Carrying Values and Revaluations

Why significant	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p>The Group owns a portfolio of retail property assets valued at \$14,055.7 million at 30 June 2023, which represents 90.3% of total assets of the Group. In addition, there are retail property assets valued at \$518.5 million held through interests in joint ventures.</p> <p>These assets are carried at fair value, which is assessed by the directors with reference to external and internal property valuations and are based on market conditions existing at the reporting date.</p> <p>The valuation of investment properties is inherently subjective. A small difference in any one of the key market input assumptions, when aggregated across all the properties, could result in a material change to the valuation of investment properties.</p> <p>We consider this a key audit matter due to the number of judgements required in determining fair value.</p> <p>Note 4 of the financial report describes the key assumptions, inputs, judgements and estimations, in the determination of fair value of investment properties and how this has been considered by the directors in the preparation of the financial report at 30 June 2023.</p>	<p>Our audit procedures included the following for properties held both directly and through interests in joint ventures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ We discussed the following matters with management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ movements in the Group's investment property portfolio; ▶ changes in the condition of each property, including an understanding of key developments and changes to development activities; ▶ changes in the Group's investment property portfolio including understanding leasing activity and tenant occupancy risk; and ▶ controls in place relevant to the valuation and development processes. ▶ In conjunction with our real estate valuation specialists, on a sample basis, we performed the following procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Evaluated the net income assumptions adopted against the tenancy schedules. We tested the effectiveness of relevant controls over the leasing process and associated tenancy schedules which are used as source data in the property valuations. ▶ Tested the mathematical accuracy of valuations. ▶ Evaluated the suitability of the valuation methodology across the portfolio based on the type of asset. ▶ We considered the reports of the external and internal valuers, to assess the reasonableness of the key assumptions and estimates used. This included assumptions such as the capitalisation, discount and growth rate and future forecast rentals. We also obtained an understanding of how the valuers consider environmental factors. ▶ For properties under development, we considered key assumptions such as estimated cost to complete the development, allowances for developer's risk and profit and post development stabilisation allowances. ▶ Where relevant we compared the valuation against comparable transactions utilised in the valuation process. ▶ Assessed the qualifications, competence and objectivity of the valuers. ▶ Assessed capitalised planning and holding costs relating to planned major development projects. ▶ We assessed the adequacy of the Group's disclosures in the financial report.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The Directors of Vicinity Centres RE Ltd, the Responsible Entity of the Trust (the "RE"), are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in Vicinity Centres Trust's 2023 Financial Report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The Directors of the RE are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors of the RE are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- ▶ Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- ▶ Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.



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- ▶ Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors of the RE.
- ▶ Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors of the RE's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- ▶ Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- ▶ Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the financial report. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Directors of the RE regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Directors of the RE with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated to the Directors of the RE, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current year and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Ernst & Young'.

Ernst & Young

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Alison Parker'.

Alison Parker
Partner
Melbourne
16 August 2023

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Michael Collins'.

Michael Collins
Partner
Melbourne
16 August 2023